

HOT ISSUES:

High PFAS Levels Found in Rockford Dam Foam Downstream of Wolverine Worldwide Tannery

Key Message: MDEQ testing has found high levels of PFAS in Rogue River foam below the Rockford Dam near the Wolverine PFAS site.

According to data collected by state contractors, total PFAS in a foam sample from April 13 hit 296,584 parts-per-trillion (ppt) and prompted a state and local health official warning to avoid ingesting the foam.

EPA and Indiana Department of Environmental Management Partially Disapproved U.S. Steel's Proposed Operation and Maintenance and Preventive Maintenance Plans

Key Message: On May 30, the plans were partially disapproved due to failure to fully meet all of the terms and conditions of the Consent Decree.

U.S. Steel has 30 days to resubmit the plans. Press interest in U.S. Steel's April 2017 spill and the resulting Consent Decree has been high.

MDEQ Issued the Back Forty Mine Permit

Key Message: After receiving EPA concurrence on the permit conditions, MDEQ issued the permit on June 4.

It is expected that the permit issuance will receive press attention and local opposition will continue.

Office of Inspector General and EPA "Exit Interview" Regarding Flint Report Held June 5

Key Message: As a result of the meeting, the OIG is making a few clarifying revisions to the report, which HQ's Office of Water and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance will respond to.

The agency has concurred with OIG's recommendations.

EPA Cleanup Begins at Former Champion Spark Plug Factory in Toledo, Ohio

Key Message: On June 5, the Region began a time-critical removal of asbestos at the site.

The cleanup is expected to take two months to complete and cost \$1.8 million.

Residents Investigating Cancer Cluster Near Butterworth Landfill Superfund Site in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Key Message: EPA conducted a site cleanup in 1999, and removed material contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyl and chromium.

Recent reviews show there is no current exposure at the site.

UPCOMING EVENTS/MAJOR DECISIONS:

RA Stepp to Meet with South Bend, Indiana, Mayor and Indianapolis' Citizens Energy June 13-14

Key Message: Both the mayor and Citizens Energy wish to showcase the progress being made on their respective combined sewer overflow projects.

Region 5 Weekly Report
Week of June 4, 2018

While in Indianapolis, RA Stepp will also keynote the Corporate Environmental Enforcement Council's Membership Meeting on June 14.

Region 5 Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch Hosting State Partners for Annual Roundtable Meeting

Key Message: On June 6-7, 2018, the Region will host state water enforcement partners for the 20th annual roundtable meeting.

The meeting serves to build relationships; share information, best practices, and joint priorities; and discuss challenges.

Region 5 Hosting Great Lakes Executive Committee Meeting June 6-7, 2018

Key Message: The Great Lakes Executive Committee provides the forum used to report to the public on our binational efforts to implement the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLQWA).

During the GLEC meeting, the co-chairs for each GLQWA Annex report on their progress. GLEC members include states, federal agencies, the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative and tribes.

Region 5 to Host Susan Bodine on June 12

Key Message: This is an opportunity for OECA and Region 5 senior leadership to meet face-to-face.

Discussion topics include the Region's work to advance national compliance assurance priorities under EPA's Strategic Plan and information sharing on regional resources and expected outcomes for the rest of FY18.

Henry Darwin to Join Region 5 Monthly Business Review on June 13

Key Message: The Region will provide an update on bowling chart measure progress and upcoming LEAN events.